

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED  
KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF  
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA CONCERNING HEALTH CARE FOR MILITARY  
MEMBERS AND THEIR DEPENDANTS

SECTION I  
INTRODUCTION

1. The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, represented by the Surgeon General, and the Government of the United States of America, represented by the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs (hereinafter referred to as the "Participants"), have jointly approved the arrangements to conclude this Memorandum of Understanding concerning health care for military members and their dependants.

2. This Memorandum of Understanding applies to military members of the two countries who are stationed in each other's country, and their accompanying dependants; also to military members visiting on official business at the invitation of the receiving government.

SECTION II  
REFERENCES

1. The agreement between the States Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty regarding the Status of their Forces, done at London on 19 June 1951, known as the NATO SOFA

2. The National Health Service (Charges to Overseas Visitors) Regulations 1989, The National Health Service (Charges to Overseas Visitors) Amendment Regulations 1991, and the National Health Service (Charges to Overseas Visitors) Amendment Regulations 1994.

3. Section 2549, title 10, United States Code, "Provision of medical care to foreign military and diplomatic personnel: reimbursement required; waiver for provision of reciprocal services."

4. United States Department of Defense Instruction 6015.23, December 9, 1996, Delivery of Healthcare at Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs).

SECTION III  
DEFINITIONS

1. Dependant: The spouse or child of a military member, who is dependant on that military member, as defined in the regulations of the military member's Government.

2. Administrative surcharge: A per them charge for administrative expenses in connection with inpatient care in a military treatment facility.

3. Supplemental care: Medically indicated health care provided to military personnel (and in very limited circumstances to other beneficiaries) in the United States by a non-military agency, facility, or practitioner. Use of supplemental care must be in accordance with United States Department of Defense policy.

4. National Health Service (NHS). UK Government health care scheme covering primary medical and dental care provided through General Medical and Dental Practitioners, and secondary care provided through NHS Hospitals. NHS medical care is without charge for UK residents and eligible visitors, except where charging is specifically provided for in NHS legislation. NHS dental care is subject to a variable charge depending on treatment. The NHS requires UK military personnel and dependants using the Service to pay these standard NHS charges, subject to nationally exempt categories.

5. Ministry of Defense Armed Forces medical and dental facilities. Primary medical and primary dental care centers of the Royal Navy, Army, and Royal Air Force Medical Services and Defense Dental Services. Secondary care Service Hospitals and Ministry of Defense Hospital Units in NHS hospitals.

#### SECTION IV GENERAL

1. Under the references in Section 11 of this Memorandum, the Participants have determined that in return for medical care the Department of Defense provides in the United States without cost to military personnel and their dependants from the United Kingdom, the United Kingdom will make available comparable care to comparable numbers of United States military personnel and their dependants in the United Kingdom.

2. Requirements for identification and proof of eligibility by persons requesting health care under this Memorandum of Understanding shall be as prescribed by the Participant furnishing the care.

3. The Military Departments of the United States Department of Defense will make available the health care specified in this Memorandum of Understanding, subject to applicable laws and regulations and the availability of funds.

4. The medical and dental services of the UK Ministry of Defense will make available at its units the health care specified in this Memorandum of Understanding subject to the availability of capacity. Health care in NHS facilities will be provided subject to applicable regulations.

#### SECTION V HEALTH CARE TO BE MADE AVAILABLE BY THE UNITED STATES

The United States Department of Defense will make available:

a. For United Kingdom military members, outpatient and inpatient care in Department of Defense medical

and dental facilities in the United States, including supplemental care, without cost (except for an administrative surcharge, if applicable to its own personnel).

b. For dependants:

(1) Outpatient and inpatient medical care in Department of Defense medical facilities in the United

States, including supplemental care, without cost (except for an administrative surcharge, if applicable to dependants of its own members), and

(2) Dental care in Department of Defense medical and dental facilities in the United States, without cost, to the same extent that such care is made available to dependents of United States military members.

#### SECTION VI HEALTH CARE TO BE MADE AVAILABLE BY THE UNITED KINGDOM

The United Kingdom will make available, in the United Kingdom:

a. For United States military members:

(1) Medical and dental outpatient and inpatient care, without charge, in Ministry of Defense Armed

Forces medical and dental facilities.

(2) When care is not available from Ministry of Defense Armed Forces medical and dental facilities, it will be provided through the NHS as authorized under the documents referenced in paragraphs 1 and 2, Section H of this Memorandum of Understanding. This will be without cost except for standard NHS prescription, dental, and specially negotiated care charges.

b. For dependants:

(1) Medical and dental outpatient and inpatient care in Ministry of Defense Armed Forces medical and dental facilities on the same basis and to the same extent as is provided for dependants of United Kingdom military members. This will be without cost except for prescription, dental and other standard charges applicable to dependants of UK military members.

(2) When care is not available from Ministry of Defense Armed Forces medical and dental facilities, it will be provided through the NHS as authorized under the documents referenced in paragraphs 1 and 2, Section II of this Memorandum of Understanding. This will be without cost except for standard NHS prescription, dental, and specially negotiated care charges.

## SECTION VII DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Any dispute regarding the interpretation or application of this Memorandum of Understanding will be resolved by consultation between the Participants and will not be referred to any national or international tribunal or third party for settlement.

## SECTION VIII TERMS

1. This Memorandum of Understanding will be effective three months after the date of last signature and will remain in effect for five years unless sooner terminated by either Participant by giving at least three months written notice to the other Participant.

2. This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended at any time, in writing, by the mutual consent of the Participants.

The foregoing represents the understanding reached between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the United States of America upon the matters referred to therein.

For the Secretary of State for Defense  
of the Government of the United Kingdom  
of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

For the Department of Defense  
of the United States of America

Signature  
Head of British Defense Staff (Washington)  
And Defense Attaché

Signature  
Assistant Secretary of Defense  
for Health Affairs

At Washington DC  
On 12 March, 1999

at Washington DC  
on 27 May, 1999